

REMARKSThe Objection under 35 U.S.C. §132

The Examiner has objected to the amendment to page 34, line 25 of the specification because, evidently, Exhibits A and B filed with the Amendment filed March 22, 2000 are not located in the file. Extra copies are enclosed herewith. Also enclosed is a photocopy of the postcard receipt dated March 31, 2000, indicating receipt by the PTO of Exhibits A and B. In the event that the copies are again misplaced, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (781) 861-6240 and new copies will be sent by facsimile. Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

Rejection of Claims 1-3, 5, 7-11, 13 and 15-41 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph

The Examiner has allowed Claims 4, 6, 12 and 14 and has rejected Claims 1-3, 5, 7-11, 13 and 15-41 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

On August 23, 2000, the undersigned and Ms. Carolyn Elmore participated in an interview with the Examiner and Examiner Bansal with regard to this application and related application Serial No. 08/192,093. Pursuant to the interview, on September 29, 2000, Applicants submitted Remarks and accompanying references in the related application. It was the Applicants' understanding that the Examiner would reconsider the rejections in light of the claims during the interview and contact the Applicants as to those claims which would be allowable.

Significant time has passed since the interview and since Applicants' filing of the Remarks. Applicants have left two telephone messages placed on Examiner Canella's voicemail (on October 12, 2000 and on November 2, 2000), requesting status information for both applications and asking if the Examiner needed further information. Neither call has been returned.

In a final attempt to reach agreement and to expedite issuance of the case, all pending rejected claims have been cancelled without prejudice.

CONCLUSION

Since there are no further issues outstanding, timely passage of this application to insurance would be appreciated. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (781) 861-6240.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

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